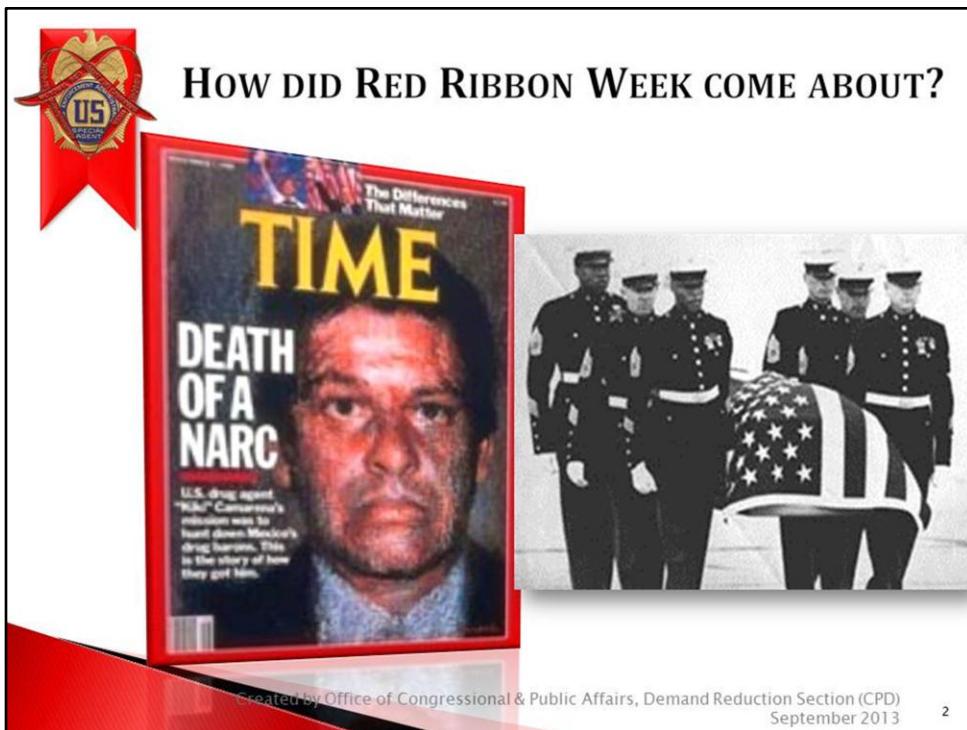




Red Ribbon Week – October 23-31 – You may remember the events of this commemorative week from elementary school – Red Ribbons that you wore during the week, the bookmark contest, people like me coming to your class to talk.... I would like to remind you about the history of why we celebrate Red Ribbon Week...



How did Red Ribbon Week come about?

- On February 7, 1985, Enrique (“Kiki”) Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent (S/A), was stationed in Guadalajara, Mexico. Kiki had been in Mexico for more than four years and was on the trail of Mexican marijuana and cocaine drug traffickers.
- At 2:00 p.m. on that fateful day, Kiki was going to meet his wife Mika for lunch. As Kiki was about to enter his truck, five men approached and shoved him into a beige Volkswagen, and sped away. That was the last time Kiki was seen alive.
- Kiki’s body was found one month later in a shallow grave, 70 miles from Michoacan, Mexico. He had been beaten and brutally murdered.



RED RIBBON WEEK STARTED WITH ONE MAN

- Shortly after Kiki's death, Congressman Duncan Hunter and Kiki's high school friend Henry Lozano launched "Camarena Club" in Kiki's hometown of Calexico, California. Hundreds of club members pledged to live drug free lives to honor the sacrifice of Kiki.
- In 1988 the National Family Partnership coordinated the first National Red Ribbon Week with President and Mrs. Reagan serving as honorary chairpersons. Since then, 80 million people participate in Red Ribbon activities each year.



Why the Red Ribbon?

Red Ribbon Week is a uniform way for communities nationwide to take a stand against drugs and drug use. The Red Ribbon events and activities help educate individuals, and families, about the destructive effects of drug use.



Commemorating Red Ribbon Week



The DEA Red Ribbon Patch

Created by Office of Congressional & Public Affairs, Demand Reduction Section (CPD)
September 2013

Commemorating Red Ribbon Week

Boy and Girl Scouts across the United States join us in commemorating Red Ribbon Week. This is a partnership we are very proud of. For more information on the program, please go to www.JustThinkTwice.com.



Red Ribbon Week Activities

There are lots of ways to celebrate Red Ribbon Week and every part of your community can get involved. There are activities you can participate in or even initiate!



Red Ribbon Week Activities

The DEA Web sites www.dea.gov and www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com has information about Red Ribbon Week and how you can get involved.

- Wear red ribbons and distribute them to your friends, family, volunteers, staff, and employees.
- Sponsor a Red Ribbon Week activity such as a fun run, bike-a-thon, bookmark, poster, essay contest, classroom door decorating contest, etc.
- Promote Red Ribbon at your school's sporting events by handing out red ribbons, providing information about Red Ribbon Week, and have you and your parents say a drug free pledge.
- Also, I encourage you to talk with me about the events in the community, your ideas, and possible ways you can partner with the local DEA office.



Red Ribbon Pledge

Here are sample pledges for use at Red Ribbon Week events. Parents and students can recite these pledges, or sign and post them in their homes and schools as a reminder of their pledges to be drug-free. You can access the pledges at www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com.

Students Pledge

I pledge to stay in school and learn the things that I need to know.

I pledge to make the world a better place for kids like me to grow.

I pledge to keep my dreams alive and be all that I can be.

I pledge to help others and to keep myself drug free.

Parent's Pledge

We will talk to our children about the dangers of drug abuse.

We will set clear rules for our children about not using drugs.

We will set a good example for our children by not using illegal drugs or medicine without a prescription, or abusing prescription drugs.

We will monitor our children's behavior and enforce appropriate consequences, so that our rules are respected.

We will encourage family and friends to follow the same guidelines to keep children safe from substance abuse.

I pledge to set guidelines to help children grow up safe, healthy, and drug-free.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.dea.gov



DEA Drug Enforcement Administration
TOUGH WORK. VITAL MISSION

Red Ribbon Campaign

Events Around the Nation

Kiki & the History of Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Toolkit

Photo Gallery

Scouting Patch Program

Presidential Proclamation

Created by Office of Congressional & Public Affairs, Demand Reduction Section (CPD)
September 2013

For more information about the DEA and Red Ribbon Week, please go to the following websites:

www.dea.gov

www.justthinktwice.com
DEA's website for teens

www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com
DEA's website for parents, teachers and caregivers



FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.JustThinkTwice.com



www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com



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